



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 6 May 1967



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DAILY BRIEF
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1. North Vietnam

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2. Brazil

There is a growing trend toward anti-Americanism.

The press has blown up the activities of a few American missionaries preaching birth control into a US campaign to "sterilize" Brazilian women. The issue is assuming the proportions of a national uproar. A large news chain is accusing the US of being part of a "conspiracy" to depose Costa e Silva. Leftist newsmen in general seem to feel the government's "independent" foreign policy gives them the right to stand up to the US.

There is no evidence that the government has stimulated this hostile press--but no real effort has been made to stop it.

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3. Cyprus

The island has been calm since the coup in Athens, but serious trouble may develop this weekend.

There are fears that General Grivas, commander of Cypriot armed forces, may crack down on the Communists despite the Cypriot government's objections.

Grivas made clear earlier this week that he would not tolerate a belated May Day celebration on Sunday.

[REDACTED]

Any inflammatory speeches criticizing the King or the present regime in Athens could put Grivas on the warpath, not only against the Communists but Makarios as well.

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4. Dominican Republic

Yesterday's firebomb attack on a prominent senator from Bosch's old party may have major political ramifications. Suspicion will focus on the government, since the senator was a strident critic of Balaguer.

This incident will further alienate the left, and comes at a time when right-wing dissatisfaction with Balaguer has been increasing. His recent appointment of two of Trujillo's followers--one of them a brutal police officer--has fanned this discontent.

While we do not see any group capable of seriously threatening the government at the moment, Balaguer's political position is running downhill.

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5. Thailand

Stepped up harassment by Communist insurgents in the northeast is severely challenging the government's "protect the villages" program. One band of insurgents, capitalizing on the slow reaction of government forces, managed to occupy a village for 24 hours. All in all, the insurgents initiated 30 percent more attacks in March than in February. Government casualties doubled over the period.

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